

## Getting Started

Practical tips to help you get started in the Catholics Returning Home program.

Tips cover; times to start, contacts to use, invitations, readings, plus much more.

### STEPS ALONG THE WAY

- Read *Inviting Catholics Home A Parish Program* by Sally Mews (Liguori Missouri 2002)
- Secure the approval and support of your parish priest and parish leadership team
- Purchase and become familiar with the Team Training Video /DVD and Resource Kit
  - Invite parish members who are returning Catholics themselves and/or have a welcoming and non-judgmental heart to join the team
  - Organize a training session for potential team members (recommend 5 hour session eg Sat. 9am-2pm)
  - Plan what are the best times to offer the Program in your parish area
  - Invite parish support through their prayer, practical support and above all a welcoming attitude and smile.
- Begin advertising the Program 6 weeks before the course begins - utilize a variety of media strategies
  - Ensure that the parish has a reliable contact person who can respond gently and quickly to tentative enquiries.